

SKP

Boudreau, Paul E

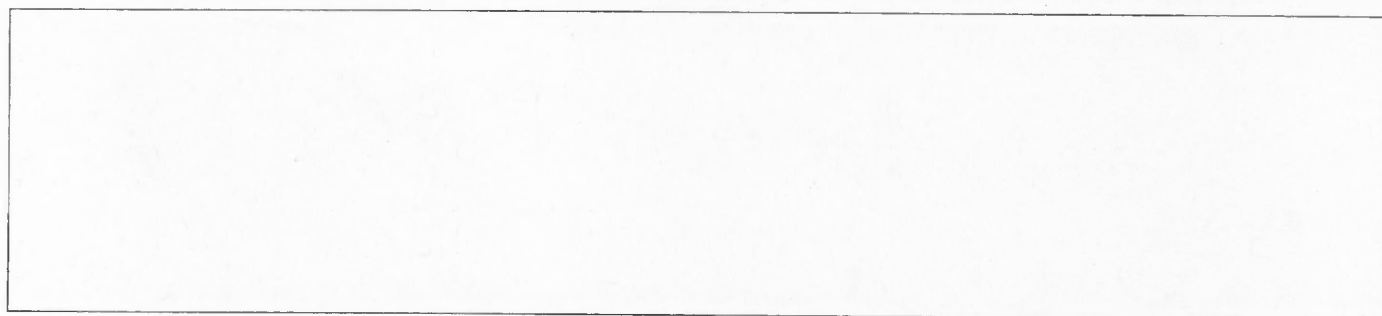
To: Burger, David
Subject: RE: Rapid Response 06-07

RELEASED IN PART
B5

-----Original Message-----

From: Orlansky, Michael D
Sent: Wednesday, June 07, 2006 5:13 PM
To: Wohlers, Paul; Hubler, Stephen A
Subject: RE: Rapid Response 06-07

It's great of Omar Amach to send us the RRU talking points every day. Often they are useful.



B5

One Q today in the Dnevnik interview came up about this. Amb handled it extremely well by shifting the discussion to positive cooperation with Macedonia in counterterrorism, refraining from comment on the specific case, and staying away from the "we do not discuss intelligence matters" construct.
Mike

Message:

* "The United States and many other countries are waging a war against terrorism. For our country this war often takes the form of conventional military operations in places like Afghanistan and Iraq. Sometimes this is a political struggle, a war of ideas. It is a struggle waged also by our law enforcement agencies. Often we engage the enemy through the cooperation of our intelligence services with their foreign counterparts." (Secretary Rice)

* "We have defended as a useful tool in fighting terrorism the practice of rendition in certain rare circumstances where an individual would otherwise not be able to be brought to justice or would otherwise be able to escape and avoid capture."

* "The suggestion that intelligence flights are somehow engaged in illegal activity really undermines the cooperation between the United States and Europe."

* "In all circumstances we do not transfer the person with the expectation that the person would be

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tortured or would be mistreated." (State Legal Advisor Bellinger)

-----Original Message-----

From: Amach, Omar H (PACE)(RRU)

Sent: Wednesday, June 07, 2006 1:34 PM

Subject: Rapid Response 06-07

Hot Issues

Waiting for Iran's Answer: Headlines in Europe are guardedly optimistic about Iran's response to the package delivered by EU foreign policy chief Solana yesterday in Tehran: "Iran Recognizes 'Positive Steps' in Great Powers' Nuclear Offer;" "Iran Tempted by Deal to Defuse Nuclear Crisis;" "Iran Regime Split Over West's Latest Offer;" "Iran Opens to the European Plan." The Times of India comments: "It is now up to Tehran to reciprocate and show the world that Ahmadinejad was sincere when he recently shot off a letter to Bush proposing 'new solutions' for tackling international problems." However, Russian press speculate that the proposal "will be declined if Iran's legitimate right to enrich uranium is not affirmed." Pan-Arab TV reports that Russia says it will only support UN Security Council sanctions on Iran if Tehran is in breach of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. China's official media carry the news without analysis or commentary.

Message:

u "I want to solve this issue with Iran diplomatically. I appreciate Javier Solana carrying a message to the Iranians that America, Russia, China, Britain, France and Germany -- the main group of negotiators -- wants this problem to be solved."

u "We will see if the Iranians take our offer seriously.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2006/06/images/20060606-7_f1g1620-515h.html> The choice is theirs to make. I have said the United States will come and sit down at the table with them, so long as they're willing to suspend their enrichment in a verifiable way." (President Bush)

u "This package has been presented to the Iranian Government and we want to give them a little bit of space to consider what's in the package, both on the positive as well as the negative side. And we want to do that free from having a public debate about what has been agreed upon by all the members of the P5+1." (State Spokesman McCormack)

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Europeans See "Spider Web" of CIA Renditions: The Council of Europe's just-released report concludes that "authorities in several European countries actively participated with the CIA in these unlawful actions." Although it appears to break no new ground, the report has prompted European media to once again consider their governments' role in anti-terror operations. The Guardian calls the report a "damning verdict" and concludes that "the full extent of European collusion with the CIA...is laid bare today by the continent's most authoritative human rights body." Further international reaction is expected as the story gains traction in the media.

Message:

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Somali Islamists Deny Terrorist Ties: Pan-Arab TV coverage of Somalia juxtaposes President Bush's statement that he does not want Somalia to turn into a safe haven for Al-Qaeda with the chairman of the Mogadishu Islamic Courts Union's denial of any connection to terrorists. On Al-Arabiya, the leader of Islamic group says: "America knows there is no Al-Qaeda in Somalia... [US concern] stems only from the failure of its supporters." Al-Sharq Al-Awsat headlines: "Mogadishu's New Leader: I Don't Know the Taliban and We Will Establish an Islamic Republic." Egypt's Al-Ahram comments that recent events are a major turning point and calls on regional organizations like the African Union and Arab League to step in. European media remain critical of the US role. A German paper's comment that "In Somalia, the US was dealt its first defeat in the war on terror" is reiterated in a Turkish headline: "US Loses Control in Somalia."

Message:

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u "When there's instability anywhere in the world, we're concerned. There is instability in Somalia. The first concern, of course, would be to make sure that Somalia does not become an al-Qaeda safe haven, that it doesn't become a place from which terrorists can plot and plan. We're watching very carefully the developments there." (President Bush)

u "There are many different factions even to this one group. I'm not going to characterize them in any particular way. I couldn't get into whether or not they have links to Al-Qaeda or not. That said, we do have serious concerns and publicly stated concerns about the presence of foreign terrorists in Somalia." (State Spokesperson McCormack)